

Katy Perry

Katheryn Elizabeth Hudson (born October 25, 1984), known professionally as **Katy Perry**, is an American singer, songwriter, and television personality. Perry is one of the best-selling music artists in history, having sold over 143 million units worldwide. She is known for her influence on pop music and her camp style, being dubbed the "Queen of Camp" by *Vogue* and *Rolling Stone*. The world's highest-paid female musician in 2015 and 2018, *Billboard* named her one of the greatest pop stars of the 21st century.

At 16, Perry released a gospel record titled *Katy Hudson* (2001) under Red Hill Records, which was commercially unsuccessful. She moved to Los Angeles at 17 to venture into secular music, and later adopted the stage name "Katy Perry" from her mother's maiden name. She recorded an album while signed to Columbia Records, but was dropped before signing to Capitol Records. Perry rose to fame with *One of the Boys* (2008), a pop rock record containing her debut single "I Kissed a Girl" and follow-up single "Hot n Cold", which reached number one and three on the U.S. *Billboard* Hot 100 respectively.

The disco-influenced pop album <u>Teenage Dream</u> (2010) spawned five U.S. number one singles —"California Gurls", "Teenage Dream", "Firework", "E.T.", and "Last Friday Night (T.G.I.F.)"— the only album by a female singer to do so. The album's reissue titled <u>Teenage Dream</u>: <u>The Complete Confection</u> (2012) produced the U.S. number one single "Part of Me". Her empowerment-themed album <u>Prism</u> (2013) had two U.S. number one singles, "Roar" and "Dark Horse". Both their respective music videos made her the first artist to have multiple videos reach one billion views on <u>Vevo</u> and <u>YouTube</u>. Afterwards, Perry released the albums <u>Witness</u> (2017), <u>Smile</u> (2020) and <u>143</u> (2024) to varying critical and commercial success.

Katy Perry



Perry in 2024

Born Katheryn Elizabeth Hudson

October 25, 1984

Santa Barbara, California, U.S.

Other names Katy Hudson · Katheryn Perry

Occupations Singer · songwriter · TV

personality

Years active 2001-present

Works Songs · discography ·

performances · videography

Spouse Russell Brand

(m. 2010; div. 2012)

Partner(s) Orlando Bloom (2016–present;

engaged)

Children 1

Relatives Frank Perry (uncle)

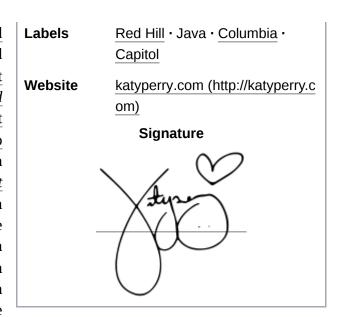
Awards Full list

Musical career

Genres Pop · dance · rock

Instruments Vocals · guitar

Perry has the second-most U.S. <u>Diamond-certified</u> singles for any female artist (six). She has received various accolades, including a *Billboard* Spotlight Award, four <u>Guinness World Records</u>, five <u>Billboard Music Awards</u>, five <u>American Music Awards</u>, a <u>Brit Award</u>, a <u>Juno Award</u>, and the <u>Michael Jackson Video Vanguard Award</u>. Outside of music, she released an autobiographical documentary titled <u>Katy Perry: Part of Me</u> in 2012, voiced <u>Smurfette</u> in <u>The Smurfs</u> film series (2011–2013), and launched her own shoe line <u>Katy Perry Collections</u> in 2017. Perry served as a judge on <u>American Idol</u> from the <u>sixteenth season</u> in 2018 to the <u>twenty-second season</u> in 2024. With an estimated net worth of \$350 million, she is <u>one of the</u> world's wealthiest musicians.



Life and career

1984-1999: Early life and family

Katheryn Elizabeth Hudson was born on October 25, 1984, in <u>Santa Barbara, California</u>, to <u>Pentecostal</u> pastors Mary Christine (née Perry) and Maurice Keith Hudson. [1][2] Both of her parents turned to religion after a "wild youth". [3] Perry has English, German, Irish, and Portuguese ancestry. [4] Through her mother, she is a niece of film director <u>Frank Perry</u>. [5] She has a younger brother named David, who is also a singer, [6] and an older sister, Angela. [7]

From ages three to 11, Perry frequently moved across the country as her very strict parents set up churches before settling again in Santa Barbara. Growing up, she attended religious schools and camps, including Paradise Valley Christian School in <u>Arizona</u> and Santa Barbara Christian School in California during her <u>elementary years</u>. The family struggled financially, sometimes using food stamps and eating food from the food bank which also fed the congregation at her parents' church.

Growing up, Perry and her siblings were not allowed to eat the cereal <u>Lucky Charms</u> as the word "luck" reminded their mother of <u>Lucifer</u>, and were also required to call <u>deviled eggs</u> "angeled eggs". Perry primarily listened to gospel <u>music</u>, as secular music was generally discouraged in the family's home. She discovered popular music through CDs she smuggled home from her friends. Perry later recalled a story about how a friend of hers played "<u>You Oughta Know</u>" by <u>Alanis Morissette</u>, which influenced her songwriting and singing. 14

While not strictly identifying as religious, she has stated, "I pray all the time – for self-control, for humility." Wanting to be like her sister Angela, Perry began singing by practicing with her sister's cassette tapes. She performed the tracks in front of her parents, who let her take vocal lessons like Angela was doing at the time. She began training at age nine; $\frac{[16]}{[17]}$ she was also incorporated into her parents' ministry, singing in church from ages nine to $17.\frac{[17]}{[17]}$ At 13, Perry was given her first guitar for her birthday, and publicly performed songs she wrote.

She tried to "be a bit like the typical Californian girl" while growing up, and started rollerskating, skateboarding, and surfing as a teenager. Her brother David described her as a "tomboy" during her adolescence, which Perry talks about on her song "One of the Boys". [19] She took dancing lessons and learned how to swing, Lindy Hop, and jitterbug. [20] Perry completed her General Educational Development (GED) requirements early at age 15, [21] during her first year of high school, [22] and left Dos Pueblos High School to pursue a music career. [23]

2000–2006: Career beginnings, Katy Hudson, and Fingerprints

Perry briefly had vocal lessons with a woman named Agatha Danoff^[24] in facilities rented from the Music Academy of the West. Her singing caught the attention of rock artists Steve Thomas and Jennifer Knapp from Nashville, Tennessee, who brought her there to improve her writing skills. In Nashville, she started recording demos and learned how to write songs and play guitar. Perry signed with Red Hill Records and recorded her debut album, a contemporary Christian record titled *Katy Hudson*, which was released on March 6, 2001. She also went on tour that year as part of Phil Joel's Strangely Normal Tour and embarked on other performances of her own in the United States.

Katy Hudson received mixed reviews from critics and was commercially unsuccessful, selling an estimated 200 copies before the label ceased operations in December. Transitioning from gospel music to secular music, Perry started working with producer Glen Ballard, and moved to Los Angeles at the age of 17. She opted to work with Ballard due to his past work with Alanis Morissette, one of her major inspirations. In 2003, she briefly performed as Katheryn Perry, to avoid confusion with actress Kate Hudson, and later adopted the stage name "Katy Perry", using her mother's maiden name. In 2010, she recalled that "Thinking of You" was one of the first songs she wrote after moving to Los Angeles. Perry would also perform at the Hotel Café, performing new music while she was between record labels.

In 2004, she signed to Ballard's label, Java Records, which was then affiliated with The Island Def Jam Music Group. Perry began work on a solo record due for release in March 2005, but the record was shelved after Java was dropped. Ballard then introduced her to Tim Devine, an A&R executive at Columbia Records, and she was signed as a solo artist. By November 2006, Perry had finished writing and recording material for her Columbia debut titled *Fingerprints* (with some of the material from this time appearing on *One of the Boys*) which was planned for release in 2007. Some of the material from *Fingerprints* that did not make it on *One of the Boys* was given to other artists, such as "I Do Not Hook Up" and "Long Shot" to Kelly Clarkson, and "Rock God" to Selena Gomez & the Scene.

Perry worked with songwriters including <u>Desmond Child</u>, <u>Greg Wells</u>, <u>Butch Walker</u>, <u>Scott Cutler</u>, <u>Anne Preven</u>, <u>the Matrix</u>, <u>Kara DioGuardi</u>, <u>Max Martin</u>, and <u>Dr. Luke</u>. [41][42] In addition, after Devine suggested that songwriting team the Matrix become a "real group", she recorded an album, <u>The Matrix</u>, with them. [43] *The Matrix* was planned for release in 2004 but was cancelled due to creative differences. It was released in 2009 after the release of *One of the Boys*. Perry was dropped from Columbia in 2006 as *Fingerprints* neared completion. After the label dropped her, she worked at an independent <u>A&R</u> company, Taxi Music. [44]

Perry had minor success prior to her breakthrough. One of the songs she had recorded for her album with Ballard, "Simple", was featured on the soundtrack to the 2005 film *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*. [45] Perry provided backing vocals on Mick Jagger's song "Old Habits Die Hard", [46] which was

included on the soundtrack to the 2004 film <u>Alfie</u>. [47] In September 2004, <u>Blender</u> named her "The Next Big Thing". [45] She recorded background vocals on <u>P.O.D.</u>'s single "<u>Goodbye for Now</u>", was featured at the end of its music video in 2006, and performed it with them on <u>The Tonight Show with Jay Leno</u>. [48] That year, Perry also appeared in the music video for "Learn to Fly" by <u>Carbon Leaf</u>, and played the love interest of her then-boyfriend, <u>Gym Class Heroes</u> lead singer <u>Travie McCoy</u>, in the band's music video for "Cupid's Chokehold". [49]

2007-2009: Breakthrough with One of the Boys

After Columbia dropped Perry, <u>Angelica Cob-Baehler</u>, then a publicity executive at the label, brought Perry's demos to <u>Virgin Records</u> chairman <u>Jason Flom</u>. Flom was convinced that she could be a breakthrough star and she was signed to <u>Capitol Records</u> in April 2007. The label arranged for her to work with Dr. Luke to add an "undeniable smash" to her existing material. Perry and Dr. Luke cowrote the songs "I Kissed a <u>Girl</u>" and "Hot n Cold" for her second album <u>One of the Boys</u>. A campaign was started with the November 2007 release of the video to "<u>Ur So Gay</u>", a song aimed at introducing her to the music market. A <u>digital EP</u> of the same name was also released that month. Madonna helped publicize the song by praising it on the <u>JohnJay & Rich</u> radio show in April 2008, stating "Ur So Gay" was her "favorite song" at the time. In March 2008, Perry made a cameo appearance as a club singer in the <u>Wildfire</u> episode "Life's Too Short" and appeared as herself during a photo shoot that June on The Young and the Restless for the show's magazine Restless Style.

Perry released her first single with Capitol, "I Kissed a Girl", on April 28, 2008, [58] as the lead single from *One of the Boys*. The first station to pick up the song was <u>WRVW</u> in Nashville, who were inundated with enthusiastic calls the first three days they played it. [59] The track reached number one on the US <u>Billboard Hot 100</u>. [60] "I Kissed a Girl" created controversy among both religious and <u>LGBT</u> groups. The former criticized its homosexual theme, while the latter accused her of using <u>bicuriosity</u> to sell records. In response to speculation that her parents opposed her music and career, Perry told <u>MTV</u> that they had no problems with her success. [61]

One of the Boys, released on June 17, 2008, garnered mixed critical reviews and reached number nine on the US $\underline{Billboard}$ 200. [62][63] The album went on to sell 7 million copies worldwide. [64] "Hot n Cold" was released the following September and became the album's second successful single, reaching number three on the $\underline{Billboard}$ Hot 100[66]



Perry was part of the 2008 Warped Tour lineup.

while topping charts in Germany, [67] Canada, [68] the Netherlands [69] and Austria. [70] Later singles "Thinking of You" and "Waking Up in Vegas" were released in $2009^{[71][72]}$ and reached the top 30 of the Hot $100.^{[66]}$ The Matrix's self-titled debut album, which Perry had recorded with the band in 2004, was released onto iTunes on January 27, 2009, as a result of her solo success. [47][73]

After finishing the 2008 <u>Warped Tour</u>, [74] Perry hosted the <u>2008 MTV Europe Music Awards</u> in November 2008, where she won the award for <u>Best New Act</u>. [75] At the <u>2009 Brit Awards</u>, she also won the award for <u>International Female Solo Artist</u>. [76] Perry embarked on her first headlining world tour, the <u>Hello Katy Tour</u>, from January to November 2009 to support *One of the Boys*. [77] On August 4, 2009, she

performed as opening act for one date of <u>No Doubt</u>'s <u>2009 Summer Tour</u>. Perry also hosted the <u>2009 MTV Europe Music Awards</u> in November 2009, becoming the first person to host two consecutive ceremonies of the European awards. [79]

On July 22, 2009, Perry recorded a live album titled *MTV Unplugged*, which featured acoustic performances of five tracks from *One of the Boys* as well as one new song, "Brick by Brick", and a cover of Fountains of Wayne's "Hackensack". [80] It was released on November 17, 2009. [81] Perry also appeared on two singles with other artists; she was featured on a remix of Colorado-based band 3OH!3's song "Starstrukk" in September 2009, [82] and on a duet with Timbaland entitled "If We Ever Meet Again", from his album *Shock Value II*, three months later. [83][84] The *Guinness World Records* recognized her in its 2010 edition as the "Best Start on the U.S. Digital Chart by a Female Artist", for digital single sales of over two million copies. [85]

After Perry and Travie McCoy split up in December 2008, [86] they briefly reconciled before she ended their relationship in 2009. [87][88] Perry met her future husband Russell Brand in mid-2009 while filming a cameo appearance for his film *Get Him to the Greek*. Her scene, in which the two kiss, does not appear in the film. [89] She began dating Brand after meeting him again that September at the 2009 MTV Video Music Awards. [90] The couple became engaged on December 31, 2009, while vacationing in Rajasthan, India. [91]

2010-2012: Teenage Dream and marriage

After serving as a guest judge on <u>American Idol</u>, [92] Perry released "California Gurls" featuring <u>Snoop Dogg</u> on May 7, 2010. The song was the lead single from her third studio album, <u>Teenage Dream</u>, and reached number one on the <u>Billboard</u> Hot 100 in June. She also served as a guest judge on <u>British The X Factor</u> later that month [95] before releasing the album's second single, "<u>Teenage Dream</u>", in July. [96] "Teenage Dream" reached number one on the <u>Billboard</u> Hot 100 in September.

Released on August 24, 2010, [98] *Teenage Dream* debuted at number one on the *Billboard* 200, [99] and received mixed reviews from music critics. [100] It has since sold 6 million copies worldwide. [101] *Teenage Dream* would go on to win the 2011 Juno Award for International Album of the Year. [102] In October, "Firework" was released as the album's third single. [103] It became the album's third consecutive number one on the *Billboard* Hot 100 on December 8, 2010. [104]

"<u>E.T.</u>" featuring <u>Kanye West</u> was released as the fourth single from *Teenage Dream* on February 16, $2011.^{[105]}$ It topped the *Billboard* Hot 100 for five non-consecutive weeks, making *Teenage Dream* the ninth album in history to produce four number one singles on the chart. [106] "<u>Last Friday Night (T.G.I.F.)</u>" followed as the fifth single in June, and Perry became the first female artist to achieve five number-one *Billboard* Hot 100 songs from one album when the single topped that chart on August 17, and the second artist after <u>Michael Jackson</u> with his album <u>Bad</u>. [108] For this record, she received an honorary American Music Award in November 2011 and a 2013 Guinness World Record. [110]

On September 7, she set a new record by becoming the first artist to spend 69 consecutive weeks in the top ten of the Hot $100.^{[111]}$ After "The One That Got Away" was released as the album's sixth single in October, *Teenage Dream* became the third album to spawn six top-five songs on the *Billboard* Hot 100 after *Rhythm Nation 1814* by Janet Jackson and *Faith* by George Michael. The song peaked at number three in the US and number two in Canada.

On January 5, 2012, Perry was named the sixth best-selling digital artist in the United States, with sales of 37.6 million units according to Nielsen SoundScan. That month, she became the first artist to have four songs sell over 5 million digital units when "E.T." reached that mark along with "Firework", "California Gurls", and "Hot N Cold". On February 13, Capitol released the lead single from Teenage Dream: The Complete Confection, "Part of Me", which debuted at number one on the Billboard Hot 100 and became Perry's seventh single overall to top the chart. Teenage Dream: The Complete Confection was released on March 23, and serves as a reissue of Teenage Dream. Wide Awake" was released on May 22 as the re-release's second single, peaking at number two on the Billboard Hot $100^{[114]}$ and number one in Canada and New Zealand.



Perry attending the Sydney premiere for her 2012 documentary *Katy Perry: Part of Me*, which grossed \$32.7 million

Perry embarked on her second tour, the <u>California Dreams Tour</u>, in support of *Teenage Dream*^[77] from February 2011 to January 2012. The tour grossed \$59.5 million globally and won her the award for Best Live Act at the 2011 MTV Europe Music Awards. On September 23, 2011, she performed on the opening day of the 2011 Rock in Rio festival along with Elton John and Rihanna. In September 2010, Perry was scheduled to appear on the 41st-season premiere of <u>Sesame Street</u>. After her scene was uploaded to YouTube, viewers criticized Perry's exposed <u>cleavage</u>. Four days before the scheduled airing, <u>Sesame Workshop</u> announced that the segment would not air on television, but would still be available to watch online. Perry subsequently mocked the controversy on <u>Saturday Night Live</u>, where she was a musical guest and wore an <u>Elmo</u>-themed shirt showing large amounts of cleavage during one skit. 127

In December 2010, Perry played <u>Moe Szyslak</u>'s girlfriend in the liveaction segment from a Christmas episode of <u>The Simpsons</u> titled "<u>The Fight Before Christmas</u>". [128][129] In February 2011, she made a guest appearance on the <u>How I Met Your Mother</u> episode "<u>Oh Honey</u>", playing a

woman known as Honey. The role won her the <u>People's Choice Award for Favorite TV Guest Star</u> in January 2012. She made her film debut in the 3D family motion picture <u>The Smurfs</u> as <u>Smurfette</u> on July 29, 2011. The film was a financial success worldwide, while critics gave mostly negative reviews. [133]

She hosted *Saturday Night Live* on December 10, 2011, with <u>Robyn</u> as the episode's musical guest. Perry's work on the episode received generally positive reviews from critics, who praised her performance in the episode's <u>digital short</u> featuring her and <u>Andy Samberg</u>. In March 2012, she guest starred as a prison security guard named Rikki on the <u>Raising Hope</u> episode "Single White Female Role Model". On July 5, 2012, Perry's autobiographical documentary <u>Katy Perry: Part of Me</u> was released to theaters through <u>Paramount Pictures</u>. In the film received positive reviews and grossed \$32.7 million worldwide at the box office.

Perry began to venture into business when she endorsed the fragrance, Purr, in November 2010. Her second endorsed fragrance, Meow!, was released in December 2011. Both perfumes were released through Nordstrom department stores. $\frac{[140][141]}{[142]}$ Electronic Arts recruited her to promote their new expansion pack for *The Sims 3: Showtime*, before releasing a separate stuff pack featuring Perry-

inspired furniture, outfits, and hairstyles, titled <u>The Sims 3: Katy Perry's Sweet Treats</u>, in June 2012. [143] The following month, she became the spokesperson and ambassador for <u>Popchips</u> and made an investment in the company. [144] *Billboard* dubbed her as their "Woman of the Year" for 2012. [145]

She married Russell Brand on October 23, 2010, in a traditional Hindu ceremony near the Ranthambhore tiger sanctuary in Rajasthan. On December 30, 2011, Brand announced that they were divorcing after 14 months of marriage. Perry later stated that conflicting career schedules and his desire to have children before she was ready led to the end of their marriage and that he never spoke to her again after sending a text message that he was divorcing her, while Brand asserted that he divorced her due to her commercial success and reluctance to engage in activism. She was initially distraught over their divorce and said that she contemplated suicide. Since they married without a prenuptial agreement, he was eligible to claim half of the estimated \$44 million she earned during their marriage, but declined. Perry began a relationship with singer John Mayer in August 2012, the year her marriage with Brand had ended.

2013-2015: Prism and Super Bowl XLIX halftime show

In November 2012, Perry began work on her fourth album, <u>Prism</u>. [156][151] She told *Billboard*, "I know exactly the record I want to make next. I know the artwork, the coloring and the tone" and "I even know what type of tour I'm doing next. I'll be very pleased if the vision I have in my head becomes a reality. "[157] After initially telling <u>L'Uomo Vogue</u> in June 2012 that she planned to have "darker elements" in *Prism* following the end of her marriage, the singer revealed to MTV during the 2013 MTV Video Music Awards that she changed the album's direction after periods of self-reflection. Perry commented "I felt very prismatic", which inspired the album's name. [158][159] "Roar" was released as the lead single from *Prism* on August 10, 2013. [160] It was promoted at the MTV Video Music Awards and reached number one on the *Billboard* Hot 100. [161][162] "Unconditionally" followed as the second single from *Prism* on October 16, 2013, [163] and peaked at number 14 in the United States. [164]

Prism was released on October 18, 2013, and has sold 4 million copies as of August 2015. It received favorable reviews from critics and debuted at number one on the *Billboard* 200 chart. Four days later, Perry performed the songs from the album at the iHeartRadio Theater in Los Angeles. That Horse with Juicy J was released as the album's third single in December, and became her ninth U.S. number-one single the following month. In 2014, Birthday and This Is How We Do respectively followed as the album's fourth and fifth singles, Italian and reached the top 25 on the Hot 100.

Prior to ending her relationship with Mayer in February 2014, [172][173] she recorded and co-wrote a duet with him titled "Who You Love" for his album *Paradise Valley*. The song was released on August 12, 2013. [174] Perry's third headlining tour, the Prismatic World Tour, began in May 2014 and concluded in October 2015. [165] It sold almost 2 million tickets and grossed \$204.3 million worldwide and won Perry the



Perry performing during the Prismatic World Tour in July 2014

award for "Top Package" at the 2014 *Billboard* Touring Awards. [176] She also performed at the 2015 Rock in Rio festival on September 27, 2015. [177]

On November 23, 2014, the NFL announced that Perry would perform at the Super Bowl XLIX halftime show on February 1, 2015. Lenny Kravitz and Missy Elliott served as special guests for the show. Her performance was critically acclaimed, and the *Guinness World Records* announced two days after the singer's halftime show that it garnered 118.5 million viewers in the United States, becoming the most watched and highest rated show in Super Bowl history. The viewership was higher than the game itself, which was viewed by an audience of 114.4 million. [181]

The International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI) ranked her fifth on the list of Top Global Recording Artists of 2013. On June 26, 2014, she was declared the Top Certified Digital Artist Ever by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) for certified sales of 72 million digital singles in the United States. In May 2014, a portrait of Perry by painter Mark Ryden was featured in his exhibition "The Gay 90s", and shown at the Kohn Gallery in Los Angeles. Along with several other artists, she also recorded a cover version of the song "Daisy Bell (Bicycle Built for Two)" on a limited-edition concept album titled *The Gay Nineties Old Tyme Music: Daisy Bell* to accompany the exhibition. That month, a portrait of Perry by artist Will Cotton was included in the United States National Portrait Gallery.

On November 23, 2015, Perry starred in <u>H&M</u>'s holiday advertising campaign, for which she wrote and recorded a song titled "<u>Every Day Is a Holiday</u>". [187][188] On June 17, 2014, Perry announced that she had founded her own record label under Capitol Records, titled Metamorphosis Music. <u>Ferras</u> was the first artist to get signed to her label, and Perry served as an executive producer on <u>his self-titled EP</u>. She also recorded a duet with him on the EP, titled "Legends Never Die". [189] The label was later renamed Unsub Records. [190]

Outside of her music career, Perry reprised her role as Smurfette in *The Smurfs 2*, which was released in theaters on July 31, 2013. Like its predecessor, *The Smurfs 2* was a financial success that was panned by critics. In March 2014, she made a guest appearance playing herself in the episode "Blisteritos Presents Dad Academy Graduation Congraduritos Red Carpet Viewing Party" of the *Kroll Show*. Killer Queen was released as her third fragrance in August 2013 through Coty 195]

In January 2014, she became a guest curator of Madonna's <u>Art for Freedom</u> initiative. [196] In March 2015, she appeared in <u>Brand: A Second Coming</u>, a documentary following her ex-husband Russell Brand's transition from comedy work to activism, [150] and released a concert film titled *Katy Perry: The Prismatic World Tour* through <u>Epix</u>, which took place during her tour of the same name. [137] Perry also made a cameo appearance in the music video for Madonna's song "Bitch I'm Madonna" in June 2015. [197]

The following month, she released another fragrance with Coty, entitled Mad Potion. [198] In September 2015, she appeared in the documentaries *Katy Perry: Making of the Pepsi Super Bowl Halftime Show*, which followed Perry's preparation for her Super Bowl performance, and *Jeremy Scott: The People's Designer*, which followed the life and career of designer Jeremy Scott. [200] Perry released a mobile app titled *Katy Perry Pop* in December 2015 through Glu Mobile where her character helps players become famous musicians. [201] She described it as "the most fun, colorful world that helps guide your musical dreams". [202]

2016-2018: Witness and American Idol

Perry started writing songs for her new album in June 2016, [203] and recorded an anthem for NBC Sports's coverage of the 2016 Summer Olympics titled "Rise", which was released the following month. Perry chose to release it as a standalone track rather than save it for her album "because now more than ever, there is a need for our world to unite". NBC also felt its message spoke "directly to the spirit of the Olympics and its athletes" for its inspirational themes. [204] The song reached number one in Australia [205] and number eleven in the United States. [66]



Perry performing during
Witness: The Tour
October 2017

In August 2016, Perry stated that she aspired to create material "that connects and relates and inspires" and told Ryan Seacrest that she was "not rushing" her fifth album, adding "I'm just having a lot of fun, but experimenting and trying different producers, and different collaborators, and different styles". On February 10, 2017, Perry released the album's lead single "Chained to the Rhythm" featuring Skip Marley. It reached number one in Hungary and number four in the United States. The track was also streamed over three million times on Spotify within 24 hours, breaking the music streaming service's record at the time for the highest first-day streaming for a single track by a female artist. The album's second single, "Bon Appétit" with Migos, was released that April. Its third single, "Swish Swish", featured Nicki Minaj and followed the next month. They respectively peaked at numbers 59 and 46 in the United States, and made the top 15 in Canada.

The album, titled <u>Witness</u>, was released on June 9, 2017, to mixed reviews, [214] and debuted at number one in the United States. To accompany the album's release, Perry broadcast herself on YouTube for four days with a live-stream titled <u>Katy Perry Live</u>: Witness World Wide, concluding with a live concert on June 12. The live-stream generated over 49 million views from 190 countries. She also embarked on <u>Witness</u>: The Tour, which began in September 2017 and ended in August 2018. On June 15, 2017, <u>Calvin Harris</u> released a song titled "Feels" from his album <u>Funk Wav Bounces Vol. 1</u>, which featured Perry, <u>Big Sean</u>, and <u>Pharrell Williams</u>. The song went on to reach number one in the United Kingdom.

Perry subsequently recorded a cover of the <u>Dear Evan Hansen</u> song "Waving Through a Window" for the deluxe edition of the <u>cast recording</u>, which was released on November 2, 2018. The show's creators <u>Benj Pasek</u> and <u>Justin Paul</u> had requested Perry to cover the song to promote the musical's national tour. Later that month, Perry released "Cozy Little Christmas". She also recorded the song "Immortal Flame" for the game <u>Final Fantasy Brave Exvius</u>, and had a playable character modeled after her.

Outside of recording music, Perry appeared as herself in the film <u>Zoolander 2</u>, which was released in February 2016. In February 2017, the singer launched a shoe line titled <u>Katy Perry Collections</u>. Her shoes are available on its namesake website and at retailers such as <u>Dillard's</u> and <u>Walmart</u>. The following August, she hosted the <u>2017 MTV Video Music Awards</u>. Perry was signed for a \$25-million salary to serve as a judge on the <u>sixteenth season</u> of *American Idol*, which premiered in March 2018. Perry began a relationship with <u>Orlando Bloom</u> in early 2016, and the couple got engaged on February 14, 2019. [232][233]

2019-2020: Smile and motherhood

At the 61st Annual Grammy Awards, Perry performed "Here You Come Again", alongside Dolly Parton and Kacey Musgraves, as part of a tribute to Parton. [234] Four days later, she released a song called "365", with DJ Zedd. [235] In April, Perry was included on a remix of Daddy Yankee's song "Con Calma", featuring Snow. [236] She followed this with the singles "Never Really Over" on May 31, "Small Talk" on August 9, and "Harleys in Hawaii" on October 16. [237][238][239] "Never Really Over" in particular received critical acclaim. [240]

In June 2019, Perry appeared in the music video of <u>Taylor Swift</u>'s "<u>You Need to Calm Down</u>". [241] In July, a jury in California returned a verdict following a week-long trial that Perry's song "Dark Horse" had copied <u>Flame</u>'s 2008 song "Joyful Noise" after he filed a <u>copyright lawsuit</u> alleging that it used his track's beat without permission; [242] the verdict was later overturned. [243] After the initial verdict, the jury ordered her to pay him \$550,000. [244] The next month, Josh Kloss, Perry's co-star in the



Perry at the 2019 iHeartRadio Music Awards

"Teenage Dream" music video, accused her of sexual misconduct. In an Instagram post, Kloss alleged that, during a party at a skating rink, Perry pulled on his sweatpants and underwear, exposing his penis to her male friends. He also said her management prevented him from speaking about his time with the singer. Johnny Wujek, the creative director of said party defended Perry, saying that she "would never do something like that" and accused Kloss of having an "ongoing obsession" with her. After initially refraining from responding to this, believing it would have detracted from the MeToo movement, Perry has also denied Kloss's claims.

Following the release of her single "Never Worn White" in March 2020, Perry revealed in the accompanying music video that she was expecting her first child with Bloom. [248] "Daisies", the lead single from her sixth album, was released on May 15, 2020. Its second single "Smile" followed two months later. [249][250] The album, also titled Smile, was released on August 28, 2020. [251][252] Two days before its distribution, she gave birth to a daughter named Daisy Dove Bloom. [253] The album received mixed reviews, [254] and debuted at number five in the United States. [255] Perry further promoted the album with four compilation EPs: Camp Katy, [256] Empowered, [257] Scorpio SZN, [258] and Cosmic Energy. [259] These EPs were followed by the single "Not the End of the World" in December 2020, which had a music video in which Zooey Deschanel impersonates Perry. [260][261][262] Additionally she collaborated with various artists to create two remixes of Smile album tracks. Tiësto remix of "Resilient" featuring Aitana was released in November 2020, while Bruno Martini remix of "Cry About It Later" featuring Luísa Sonza was released in April 2021. [263]

2021–2023: Play residency

On January 20, 2021, Perry performed "Firework" at the <u>Celebrating America</u> concert during the <u>inauguration of Joe Biden</u>. Four months later, she released a new single, "<u>Electric</u>", a collaboration with <u>Pokémon</u> as part of its 25th anniversary. That December, Perry followed this with "<u>When I'm Gone</u>", a collaboration with Swedish DJ <u>Alesso</u> that made her the third person to reach number one on Croatia's ARC 100 list across three different decades following Lady Gaga and Coldplay. [267]



Perry performing on her <u>Play</u> residency in 2022

Perry began hosting a concert residency named Play at Resorts World Las Vegas on December 29, 2021. [268] The show's inception happened during the COVID-19 lockdowns with Perry being inspired by Honey, I Shrunk the Kids, Pee-wee's Playhouse, and Pee-wee's Big Adventure. She described it as "larger than life" and "the kookiest, most camp show I've ever put together. [266] The show has received critical acclaim with Melinda Sheckells of Billboard saying that Play's "sold-out opening night is part fantasy, part hallucination and thoroughly camp. [270] In addition to a sold out opening night, the Santa Barbara Independent reported that Perry's contract deal for the residency was worth \$168 million. [271] It concluded on November 4, 2023, [272] and grossed \$46.4 million. [273]

In September 2021, *Variety* paid tribute to and honored Perry in their "Power of Women" issue, where she discussed her career, motherhood, and <u>philanthropy</u>. [274] As a nominee, she attended the *Variety* 2021 "Power of Women" dinner. [275] On her 37th birthday the next month, Perry guest hosted *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* [276] and

starred in a holiday advertisement for <u>Gap Inc.</u> which featured her singing "<u>All You Need Is Love</u>" by <u>the Beatles</u>. A full version of her cover was released on streaming platforms the same day. [277] In January 2022, she and Morgan McLachlan established De Soi, a company which produces and sells <u>non-alcoholic apéritifs</u>. Both wanted a beverage that "would mellow the mind, minus the buzz" when creating it [278][279][280]

Along with <u>Thomas Rhett</u>, Perry recorded a country pop duet titled "Where We Started" for his <u>album of the same name</u> that was released on April 1, 2022. The next month, it was announced Perry would create music for the soundtrack to Jeremy Zag's animated musical film *Melody* and voice its title character. She also became the new face for <u>Just Eat's</u>, <u>SkipTheDishes'</u>, <u>Lieferando's</u>, and <u>Menulog's</u> advertisements and created a new remix of their jingle. [283][284][285][286] On June 8, 2022, Perry was awarded with the Key to <u>Las Vegas</u>, the same day it was marked as Katy Perry day. [287]

Perry collaborated with the tech company <u>Apple Inc.</u> starring in advertisements for their <u>GarageBand</u> music software where users could have "Remix Sessions" featuring her song, "Harleys in Hawaii". On the collab, she stated in August 2022: "'Harleys in Hawaii' has lived so many different lives" as well as that there was "so much opportunity to remix this song, and I can't wait to hear all the GarageBand evolutions with this Apple collab." Perry performed at the May 2023 <u>Coronation Concert</u> of <u>Charles III</u> at <u>Windsor Castle</u>. Four months later, she sold her music rights to Litmus Music for an estimated \$225 million. [291]

2024-present: 143

During an appearance on <u>Jimmy Kimmel Live!</u> in February 2024, Perry announced her exit from *American Idol* following the conclusion of the <u>twenty-second season</u>, saying she wanted to "go out and feel that pulse to my own beat" and release new music after being "in the studio for a while". The season premiered later that month, [292] and concluded in May. [293] She released "Woman's World", the first single from her seventh album, on July 11, 2024. [294] Two other singles preceded the record's release: "Lifetimes" [295][296] and "I'm His, He's Mine" featuring Doechii. [297]

The album, titled <u>143</u>, was released on September 20. [298] She described it as "super high energy, it's super summer, it's very high BPM" and "just full of so much joy, so much love, so much light". [299] The record was panned by critics, and Perry was widely criticized for her decision to work with Dr. Luke on it after singer <u>Kesha's allegations of sexual assault against him. [300][301]</u> Kesha had previously been found by a judge, with a sworn <u>deposition</u> from Perry, to have <u>falsely accused</u> Dr. Luke of raping Perry. [300][302]

On September 11, Perry received the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard Award at the 2024 MTV Video Music Awards. She performed during the 2024 Rock in Rio festival on the day of 143's release. Eight days later, Perry headlined the pre-game entertainment at Australia's 2024 AFL Grand Final. That December, she filmed a performance at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster for a special titled Katy Perry: Night of a Lifetime. Produced by Fremantle, it premiered on ITV in the United Kingdom on December 21. [306] A deluxe edition of 143, titled 1432, was



Perry performing at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster in 2024

released on December 20, 2024. It contains four additional tracks, and Perry called this "an early holiday gift" for her fans. [307]

Artistry

Influences



Alanis Morissette (left) and Freddie Mercury (right) both heavily influenced Perry and her music.

Perry cites her sister Angela as the woman who has had the most influence on her. [274] During the early stages of her career, Perry's musical style gravitated towards gospel and she aspired to be as successful as Amy Grant. [308] At age 15, she heard "Killer Queen" by Queen, which inspired her to pursue a music career. [309] She cites the band's frontman, Freddie Mercury, as her biggest influence and expressed how the "combination of his sarcastic approach to writing lyrics and his 'I don't give a fuck' attitude" inspired her music. [310] She paid homage to the band by naming her third fragrance Killer Queen. [195]

Perry described the Beach Boys and their album *Pet Sounds* as having a considerable influence on her music: "*Pet Sounds* is one of my favorite records and it influenced pretty much all of my songwriting. All of the melody choices that I make are because of *Pet Sounds*." The singer also holds the Beatles' album *The Beatles* in high esteem, and described these two albums as "the only things I listened to for probably two years straight." [312]

Perry cites Alanis Morissette and her 1995 album <u>Jagged Little Pill</u> as a significant musical inspiration. In 2012, she stated: "Jagged Little Pill was the most perfect female record ever made. There's a song for anyone on that record; I relate to all those songs. They're still so timeless." Additionally, Perry borrows influence from <u>Flaming Red</u> by <u>Patty Griffin</u> and 10 Cent Wings by <u>Jonatha Brooke</u>. [313] Perry's autobiographical documentary Katy Perry: Part of Me was largely influenced by <u>Madonna</u>: <u>Truth or Dare</u>. She admires Madonna's ability to reinvent herself, saying "I want to evolve like Madonna".

Perry names <u>Björk</u> as an influence, particularly admiring her "willingness to always be taking chances". [313] Other artists who Perry has cited as influences include <u>Stevie Nicks, [315] ABBA</u>, the <u>Cardigans, [316] Whitney Houston, [317] Cyndi Lauper, [318] Ace of Base, 3OH!3, [319] CeCe Peniston, C+C Music Factory, Black Box, Crystal Waters, Mariah Carey, [320] Heart, Joni Mitchell, Paul Simon, Imogen Heap, <u>Rufus Wainwright, [321] Pink, [322]</u> and <u>Gwen Stefani. [313] "Firework" was inspired by a passage in the book *On the Road* by <u>Jack Kerouac</u> in which the author compares people who are full of life to fireworks that shoot across the sky and make people watch in awe. [323] Her second concert tour, the California Dreams Tour, was reminiscent of <u>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</u> and <u>The Wonderful Wizard of Oz</u>. [324] She also credits the 1996 film <u>The Craft</u> for inspiring her song "Dark Horse", [325] and <u>Eckhart Tolle's book The Power of Now</u> for influencing <u>Prism. [151]</u></u></u>

Musical style and themes

Although Perry's music incorporates elements of pop, rock, and disco, *Katy Hudson* contains gospel. Her subsequent releases, One of the Boys and Teenage Dream, involve themes of sex and love. One of the Boys is a pop rock record, while Teenage Dream features disco influences. [327][328] Perry's fourth album, Prism, is significantly influenced by dance and pop music. Lyrically, album addresses the

When I am in between records, sometimes I doubt myself. I'll be like "Did I just get lucky, or did I mass-manipulate the world into thinking that seven songs were worth a number-one position?" And then I go back into the studio and I start writing, and the true essential oil of who I am comes bubbling back up and reminds me that it's always been inside of me, that nobody can take this away no matter what comment anyone makes.

—Perry on her confidence as a songwriter^[326]

relationships, self-reflection, and everyday life. [329] Her fifth studio effort *Witness* is an <u>electropop</u> album that she described as a "360-degree liberation" record, with themes including political liberation, sexual liberation, and liberation from negativity. [330][331] Many of her songs, particularly on *Teenage Dream*, reflect on love between teenagers; \underline{W} magazine described the album's sexual innuendos as "irresistible hook-laden melodies". [33] Self-empowerment is a common theme in Perry's music. [332]

Perry has described herself as a "singer-songwriter masquerading as a pop star" [333] and maintains that honest songwriting is very important to her. She told $\underline{Marie\ Claire}$: "I feel like my secret magic trick that separates me from a lot of my peers is the bravery to be vulnerable and truthful and honest. I think you

become more relatable when you're vulnerable." Actress and comedian Kristen Wiig commented that "as easy, breezy, and infectious as Perry's songs can be, beneath the surface lurks a sea of mixed emotions, jumbled motives, and contradictory impulses complicated enough to fill a Carole King record." According to Greg Kot of the Chicago Tribune, "being taken seriously may be Perry's greatest challenge yet." In 2013, The New York Times labeled her "the most potent pop star of the day – her hits are relatable with just a hint of experimentation". Randall Roberts of the Los Angeles Times criticized her use of idioms and metaphors in her lyrics and for frequent "clichés". Throughout her career, Perry has also co-written songs recorded by other artists, including Lesley Roy, Kelly Clarkson, Jessie James Decker, Selena Gomez & the Scene, Britney Spears, Iggy Azalea, Rita Ora, Nicki Minaj, and Ariana Grande.

Voice

Perry has a <u>contralto vocal range</u>. [345][346] Her singing has received both praise and criticism. Betty Clarke of <u>The Guardian</u> commented that her "powerful voice is hard-edged" while <u>Rob Sheffield</u> from <u>Rolling Stone</u> described Perry's vocals on <u>Teenage Dream</u> as "processed <u>staccato</u> blips". [328] Darren Harvey of <u>musicOMH</u> compared Perry's vocals on <u>One of the Boys</u> to Alanis Morissette's, both possessing a "perky voice shifting octaves mid-syllable". [348] Alex Miller from <u>NME</u> felt that "Perry's problem is often her voice" on <u>One of the Boys</u>, stating that "somewhere along the line someone convinced her she was like, well, a ballsy rock chick". [349] Conversely, Bernadette McNulty from <u>The Daily Telegraph</u> praised her "rock chick voice" in a review of a concert promoting <u>Prism</u>. [350]

Public image

On social media, Perry surpassed <u>Justin Bieber</u> as the most followed person on <u>Twitter</u> in November 2013. [351] She won the 2015 Guinness World Record for most Twitter followers, and became the first person to gain 100 million followers on the site in June 2017. [353] Keith Caulfield of *Billboard* stated that Perry is "the rare celebrity who seems to have enormous popularity but genuine ground-level interaction with her adoring KatyCats". [354] With over 105 million Twitter followers, she is the second-most followed woman on the site, and the sixth most followed musician across social media with a combined total of over 382 million followers across <u>Facebook</u>, Instagram, and Twitter. [355] In June 2017, <u>Time</u> magazine listed Perry among its "25 Most Influential People on the Internet" of the year, writing that her live-stream for *Witness* was "blazing a trail" for being "the closest any major entertainer has come to giving fans the kind of 'real' intimacy that social media purports to provide". [356]



Perry in her signature spinning peppermint swirl dress at the <u>California</u> Dreams Tour (2011)

Perry has been described as a <u>sex symbol</u>; \underline{GQ} labeled her a "full-on male fantasy", [9] while Elle wrote her body looked "as though sketched by a

teenage boy". [22] $\underline{\textit{Vice}}$ called her a "'serious' popstar/woman/sex symbol". [357] She was placed at number one on the $\underline{\textit{Maxim}}$ Hot 100 in 2010 as the "most beautiful woman in the world", with editor Joe Levy describing her as a "triple – no quadruple – kind of hot". [358] $\underline{\textit{Men's Health}}$ readers voted her the "sexiest woman of 2013". [359] In November 2010, Perry told $\underline{\textit{Harper's Bazaar}}$ that she was proud of and satisfied with her figure. [360]

Perry's fashion often incorporates humor, bright colors, and food-related themes [361] such as her characteristic spinning peppermint swirl dress. [362] <u>Vogue</u> described her as "never exactly one to shy away from the outrageous or the extreme in any realm", and called her the "Queen of Camp", [363][364] while <u>Glamour</u> named her the "queen of quirk". [365] In February 2009, Perry told <u>Seventeen</u> that her fashion style was "a bit of a concoction of different things" and stated she enjoyed humor in her clothing. She has also described herself as having "multipersonality disorder" for fashion. Perry lists Gwen Stefani, Shirley Manson, Chloë Sevigny, Daphne Guinness, Natalie Portman, and the fictional character <u>Lolita</u> as her style icons. [33][367] In 2022, <u>Elle</u> dubbed her as "the <u>kitsch</u>-loving pop star renowned for her uniquely experimental style", while <u>Vogue</u> described her style as "synonymous with outrageous, eye-catching ensembles that lean towards the theatrical". [368][369]

During the 2017 launch of her shoe collection, Katy Perry Collections, she said about shoes: "When I first got to L.A., I cultivated my style on a budget, always shopping at thrift stores or vintage stores. ... Once, I found these flats that looked like <u>Dalmatian dogs</u>. They had ears that moved and a tongue that stuck out. They were such a conversation piece. That's what is so great about fashion. ... It's a form of communication. You don't have to start a smoking habit to start talking to someone. You can just wear cool shoes. It's an icebreaker."

Legacy

Several media outlets such as *Billboard* and *Glamour* have referred to her as the "Queen of Pop", while others like *Vogue*, *Rolling Stone*, and *InStyle* have dubbed Perry the "Queen of Camp". Andrew Unterberger of *Billboard* described *Teenage Dream* "one of the defining LPs from a new golden age in mega-pop" while Christopher Rosa of *Glamour* named her as an influence to the pop sound and style of the 2010s, adding that her singles are "some of the most recognizable, iconic, and impactful hits in pop history." Perry was named "one of the last decade's most reliable and successful hitmakers" by the Official Charts Company in 2022. [380]

Additionally, Perry was included in *Glamour*'s "104 Women Who Defined the Decade in Pop Culture" list of the 2010s. It stated Perry "did more than just break chart records. She was one of the driving forces behind the sound of pop radio in the 2010s" for her tracks that were "glossy, booming, sugary-sweet, and undeniably catchy". [379][381] *Variety* included Perry in their *Variety* 500 list of the most influential business leaders, calling her a "global phenomenon" and a "dedicated artist and tireless self-promoter who has leveraged chart-topping hits, sold-out stadium shows, and staggering endorsement deals to become one of the richest and most influential pop stars alive." [382] A 2017 journal published by *Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts* studying structural patterns in the melodies of earworm songs compiled lists of catchiest tracks from 3,000 participants, in which Perry's "California Gurls" ranked number six. [383] She has been called a "gay icon" by Taylor Henderson of *Out*, noting how "I Kissed a Girl" helped fans explore their sexuality and how Perry openly embraced the LGBTQ+ community. [266]

Perry's music has been described by *Out* as having a "lasting legacy", with American singers <u>Fletcher</u> sampling "I Kissed a Girl" and <u>Olivia Rodrigo</u> referencing *Teenage Dream* on "<u>Brutal</u>". Additionally, other artists such as <u>Halsey</u> and <u>Ariana Grande</u> have praised Perry's work, with Halsey calling *Teenage Dream* the "perfect pop album" and Grande saying "The One That Got Away" is "one of the biggest and most perfectly written pop songs ever from one of the best pop albums of all time." [384][385]

Other ventures

Philanthropy

Perry has supported various charitable organizations and causes throughout her career. She has contributed to organizations aimed at improving the lives and welfare of children in particular. In April 2013, she joined <u>UNICEF</u> to assist children in Madagascar with education and nutrition. On December 3, 2013, she was officially named a <u>UNICEF</u> Goodwill Ambassador, "with a special focus on engaging young people in the agency's work to improve the lives of the world's most vulnerable children and adolescents." She arranged for a portion of the money generated from tickets to her Prismatic World Tour to go to UNICEF. In September 2010, she helped build and design the Boys Hope/Girls Hope foundation shelter for youth in Baltimore, Maryland along with Raven-Symoné, Shaquille O'Neal, and the cast of *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*. 189 In 2010, Perry and Nicki Minaj performed a cover of "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" for service members during the 2010 VH1 Divas Salute the Troops concert. 1990



Perry became a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador in December 2013.

She has also supported children's education and well-being. All profits from sales of the album *The Gay Nineties Old Tyme Music: Daisy Bell*, which includes her rendition of "Daisy Bell (Bicycle Built for Two)", were donated to the charity Little Kids Rock, which supports musical education in underprivileged elementary schools. In June 2014, she teamed up with Staples Inc. for a project entitled "Make Roar Happen" which donated \$1 million to DonorsChoose, an organization that supports teachers and funds classroom resources in public schools. In May 2016, she worked with UNICEF to improve child care quality in Vietnam, hoping to "break the cycle of poverty and drastically improve children's health, education and well-being". The following month, UNICEF announced that Perry would receive the Audrey Hepburn Humanitarian Award "for her work as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador in support of the world's most vulnerable children" at their annual Snowflake Ball in November. All Spotify streams of her 2021 cover of "All You Need Is Love" will generate \$1 in donations for the charity Baby2Baby.

Perry has supported organizations aimed at aiding people suffering with diseases including cancer and HIV/AIDS. During the 2008 Warped Tour, she had a cast made of her breasts to raise money for the Keep A Breast Foundation. She hosted and performed at the We Can Survive concert along with Bonnie McKee, Kacey Musgraves, Sara Bareilles, Ellie Goulding, and duo Tegan and Sara at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles, California, on October 23, 2013. The concert's profits were donated to Young Survival Coalition, an organization aiding breast cancer in young women. In June 2009, she designed an item of clothing for H&M's "Fashion Against AIDS" campaign, which raises money for HIV/AIDS awareness projects. On February 26, 2017, she served as a co-chair alongside various celebrities such as Beyoncé, Lea Michele, Jim Carrey, Jared Leto, and Kevin Spacey for the 25th Annual Elton John AIDS Foundation Academy Award Party, a fundraiser for HIV/AIDS healthcare.



Perry and Nicki Minaj (right)
performing for service
members during the 2010
VH1 Divas Salute the Troops
concert

The proceeds from Perry's single "Part of Me" were donated to the charity MusiCares, which helps musicians in times of need. During her California Dreams Tour, she raised over \$175,000 for the Tickets-For-Charity fundraiser. The money was divided between three charities: the Children's Health Fund (CHF), Generosity Water, and The Humane Society of the United States.

On her 27th birthday, Perry set up a donations page for the <u>Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Auckland, [400]</u> and set up a similar page benefiting the <u>David Lynch Foundation</u> for her 28th birthday. [401] On March 29, 2014, she helped raise \$2.4 million for the <u>Museum of Contemporary Art</u> in Los Angeles along with other celebrities such as Ryan Seacrest, Pharrell Williams, <u>Tim Allen</u>, <u>Lisa Edelstein</u>, and <u>Riley Keough. [402]</u>

Perry performed at the <u>One Love Manchester</u> benefit concert for the victims of the 2017 <u>Manchester Arena bombing</u>, among various performers including its organizer <u>Ariana Grande</u>, which was broadcast

live on June 4, 2017, on radio and television stations around the world. In March 2018, Perry announced *Witness: Coming Home*, a benefit concert that was held in her hometown of Santa Barbara on May 19, 2018. The concert benefited those recovering from the aftermath of the 2017 California wildfires and 2018 Southern California mudflows. Perry partnered with the Santa Barbara Foundation, the 93108 Fund and The 805 UndocuFund, organizations which help in assisting members of the community in the Santa Barbara area through grants and various philanthropic efforts. [404]

Activism and political views

Perry has publicly advocated for LGBT rights and admitted that she wrote "I Kissed a Girl" about her own bisexual experiences with other women. In 2017, she received a Nation Equality Award from Human Rights Campaign for "using her powerful voice and international platform to speak out for LGBTQ equality". [405] During her acceptance speech, she discussed having bisexual experiences, her fluid sexuality, and thanked the LGBTQ+ community. $\frac{[406]}{}$ In an *Out* interview in 2021, she was heralded as a "gay icon" with "I Kissed a Girl" being called a "bonafide queer anthem". Perry continued to thank the LGBTQ+ community in the same interview, saying: "I came from a very sheltered upbringing where it wasn't okay to be friends with anyone from that community. And now that is my community." She also mentioned "I wouldn't have survived without the community and it's amazing how full circle it's come and how much growth has happened since I started." Tomás Mier of Rolling Stone remarked Perry "championed queer folks, especially drag queens, throughout her career."[373]



Perry performed at multiple ceremonies for Democratic presidential candidate

<u>Hillary Clinton</u> during her 2016 campaign.

She dedicated the music video to her song "Firework" to the <u>It Gets Better Project</u>. In June 2012, Perry expressed her hopes for LGBT equality, commenting "hopefully, we will look back at this moment and think like we do now concerning [other] <u>civil rights</u> issues. We'll just shake our heads in disbelief,

saying, 'Thank God we've evolved.' That would be my prayer for the future." In December 2012, Perry was awarded the Trevor Hero Award by The Trevor Project for her work and activism on behalf of LGBT youth. [409]

Perry identifies as a <u>feminist</u>, [410] and appeared in April 2013 in a video clip for the "Chime for Change" campaign that aimed to spread female empowerment. [411] She has also said that America's lack of free <u>health care</u> drove her "absolutely crazy". [412] Following the <u>shooting at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando in June 2016</u>, Perry and nearly 200 other artists and executives in music signed an open letter organized by *Billboard* addressed to United States Congress demanding increased gun control in the United States. [413]

Through Twitter and by performing at rallies, Perry supported President <u>Barack Obama</u> in his run for reelection and praised his support for <u>same-sex marriage [414]</u> and LGBT equality. She performed at three rallies for Obama, in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Wisconsin, singing a rendition of "<u>Let's Stay Together</u>" as well as a number of her songs. During her Las Vegas performance she wore a dress made to replicate a voting ballot, with Obama's box filled in. On Twitter, she encouraged her followers to vote for Obama.

In August 2013, prior to a performance in Australia, Perry stated that she did not agree with conservative Australian opposition leader <u>Tony Abbott</u>'s stance against same-sex marriage, telling him "I love you as a human being but I can't give you my vote". Abbott had dialed in to a talkback segment on Sydney radio station <u>2Day FM</u> to ask Perry when she would return to Australia for a full tour. In April 2014, she publicly supported <u>Marianne Williamson</u> in her campaign for <u>California</u>'s <u>33rd congressional district</u> by attending a political press event. She endorsed <u>Kamala Harris</u> in the <u>United States Senate election in California</u>, and organized a fundraiser for Harris at her home in Los Angeles in November 2016. Perry also publicly endorsed former Secretary of State <u>Hillary Clinton</u> for president in <u>2016</u>. She performed alongside Elton John at a fundraising concert for Clinton in New York City in March 2016. Perry also spoke and performed at the <u>2016</u> Democratic National Convention in support of Clinton.

Four years later, she supported <u>Joe Biden</u> and Kamala Harris during the <u>2020 United States presidential election</u>, praising the latter as a leader who had "experience we desperately need right now" and believed that the former "choosing her as his running mate is already a testament to his decision making". <u>[425]</u> In 2022, Perry posted a picture of herself voting for conservative candidate <u>Rick Caruso</u> in the <u>2022 Los Angeles mayoral election</u>, which Democrats heavily criticized her for. <u>During the 2024 United States presidential election</u>, she endorsed Harris for office, stating "I've always known her to fight for the most vulnerable, to speak up for the voiceless, and to protect our rights as women to make decisions about our own bodies". <u>[427]</u>

Achievements

Throughout her career, Perry has won five American Music Awards, [428] fourteen People's Choice Awards, four Guinness World Records, [85][110][181][352] a Brit Award, followed and a Juno Award. In September 2012, Billboard dubbed her the "Woman of the Year". From May 2010 to September 2011, the singer spent a record-breaking 69 consecutive weeks in the top ten of the Billboard Hot 100. Teenage Dream became the first album by a female artist to produce five number-one Billboard Hot 100 singles, and the second album overall after Michael Jackson's Bad. In the United

States, she has accumulated nine number-one singles on the *Billboard* Hot 100, her most recent being "Dark Horse", [169] and holds the record for having 18 consecutive number-one songs on the *Billboard* Dance Club Songs chart. [431]

According to Billboard, she is the 15th most successful dance club artist of all time. [432] The magazine additionally ranked her fourth on its "Greatest of All Time Pop Songs Artists" list and twenty-fifth on the "Greatest Pop Stars of the 21st Century" list, [433][434] included Teenage Dream and Prism among its "Greatest of All Time Billboard 200 Albums by Women" list, [435] and ranked "Dark Horse" at number 100 on its "Greatest of All Time Hot 100 Songs" as well as one of its "Greatest of All Time Hot 100 Songs by Women" along with "E.T.", "Firework", and "California Gurls". [437] In June 2015, her music video for "Dark Horse" became the first video by a female artist to reach 1 billion views on Vevo. [438][439] The following month, her music video for "Roar" reached 1 billion views



Perry at the <u>ARIA Music</u> Awards in November 2014

on Vevo, making her the first artist to have multiple videos with 1 billion views. [440]

With 143 million records sold globally, Perry is one of the best-selling music artists of all time. She was declared the Top Global Female Recording Artist of 2013 by the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI). According to RIAA, Perry is the ninth top digital singles artist in the United States, with 121.5 million certified song units in the country including on-demand streams and also has 19 million certified album units, totaling 129.5 million certified units in the United States. Also became the first artist to have three songs receive Diamond certifications from the RIAA in 2017 with "Dark Horse", "Firework", and "Roar". All three of them and "E.T.", "California Gurls", and "Hot n Cold" have each sold over 5 million digital copies. Six years later, the RIAA certified "California Gurls" as her fourth diamond-certified single in the U.S., breaking her tie with Lady Gaga as the female artist with the most diamond singles there. Perry's albums *One of the Boys, Teenage Dream, Prism, Witness*, and *Smile* have individually surpassed one billion streams on Spotify. 1447

In 2011, Forbes ranked her third on their "Top-Earning Women In Music" list with earnings of \$44 million $\frac{[448]}{}$ and fifth on their 2012 list with \$45 million. $\frac{[449]}{}$ She subsequently ranked seventh on the 2013 *Forbes* list for "Top-Earning Women In Music" with \$39 million earned, [450] and fifth on their 2014 list with \$40 million. [451] With earnings of \$135 million, *Forbes* also ranked Perry number one on their 2015 "Top-Earning Women In Music" list as well as the "World's Highest-Paid Musicians" and declared her the highest earning female celebrity in 2015, placing her at number 3 on the Forbes Celebrity 100 list. [452] In 2016, the magazine estimated her net worth was \$125 million, [453] and ranked her number six on their list of "Highest-Paid Women in Music" with earnings of \$41 million. [454] The following year, she was ranked number nine on the list with \$33 million. [455] In 2018, she topped its "Highest-Paid Women" in Music" listing and ranked at number four on the "Highest-Paid Female Celebrities" list, with earnings of \$83 million. [456][457] Perry subsequently was placed at number four on the 2019 "Highest-Paid Women" in Music" listings, with \$57.5 million. [458] Later that year, with earnings of \$530 million throughout the 2010s, the magazine also ranked her as the ninth-highest-earning musician of the decade. [459] Perry is one of the wealthiest musical artists; during September 2023, Forbes surmised she had a net worth of \$340 million. [460] This increased to \$350 million the following May, where Perry was included on the magazine's 2024 list of "America's Richest Self-Made Women". [461]

On February 27, 2025, it was announced that Perry would be part of the crew for <u>Blue Origin NS-31</u>, <u>Blue Origin's</u> eleventh flight to space under the <u>New Shepard program</u>, along with <u>Amanda Nguyen</u>, <u>Aisha Bowe</u>, <u>Kerianne Flynn</u>, <u>Gayle King</u>, and <u>Lauren Sánchez</u>. It was the first all-female space flight since 1963. [462] The launch took place on April 14, 2025. [463]

Discography

- *Katy Hudson* (2001)
- One of the Boys (2008)
- Teenage Dream (2010)
- Prism (2013)
- Witness (2017)
- Smile (2020)
- **143** (2024)

Filmography

- The Smurfs (2011)
- Katy Perry: Part of Me (2012)
- The Smurfs 2 (2013)
- Brand: A Second Coming (2015)
- Katy Perry: The Prismatic World Tour (2015)
- Katy Perry: Making of the Pepsi Super Bowl Halftime Show (2015)
- Jeremy Scott: The People's Designer (2015)
- Zoolander 2 (2016)

Tours and residency

Headlining tours

- Hello Katy Tour (2009)
- California Dreams Tour (2011–2012)
- Prismatic World Tour (2014–2015)
- Witness: The Tour (2017–2018)
- The Lifetimes Tour (2025)

Co-headlining tours

Strangely Normal Tour (with Phil Joel) (2001)

Residency

Play (2021–2023)

See also



Biography portal



Pop music portal



United States portal

- Forbes list of highest-earning musicians
- List of best-selling music artists
- List of Billboard Social 50 number-one artists
- List of highest-certified music artists in the United States
- List of most-followed Twitter accounts

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External links

- Official website (https://www.katyperry.com/) <
- Katy Perry (https://www.allmusic.com/artist/mn0000859589) at AllMusic
- Katy Perry (https://www.imdb.com/name/nm2953537/) at IMDb
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